

VZCZCXRO7262
PP RUEHGA RUEHHA RUEHMT RUEHQU RUEHVC
DE RUEHOT #0540 1952039
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 142039Z JUL 09
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9661
INFO RUCNCAN/ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA PRIORITY 0007
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 1177
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 1432
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1035
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 2299
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1093
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1422
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT PRIORITY
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0072

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 000540

SIPDIS

STATE FOR ISN/RA - R. NEPHEW AND J. ALLEN-CLOSE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/14/2019

TAGS: [PARM](#) [MNUC](#) [KNNP](#) [IR](#) [CA](#)

SUBJECT: CANADA EMBRACES ENHANCED MEASURES TO DETER URANIUM
TRADE WITH IRAN

REF: A. STATE 72119

[1](#)B. OTTAWA 501

Classified By: PolMinCouns Scott Bellard, reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Senior Canadian leaders are seeking enhanced measures to block Iran's nuclear proliferation ambitions, according to Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Senior Policy Officer Ryan Hwer. He called the U.S. initiative (ref a) "very timely" and "terrific." Following the disputed June 12 Iranian election and subsequent crackdown by government security forces against protesters in Tehran, including the detention of a Canadian-Iranian Newsweek journalist, Prime Minister Stephen Harper instructed DFAIT to redouble efforts with allies to counter Iranian proliferation, according to Hwer. He noted that Canada had suggested something very similar to ref a's workshop concept in the past and would be "likely very willing and eager" to collaborate with like-minded partners now.

[1](#)2. (C) Hwer expressed puzzlement at the specific inclusion of Mega Uranium on the list of firms of immediate interest, since he said that he believed Mega to be solely an exploration company, not a uranium producer or exporter. He commented that Canada has "literally hundreds" of exploration companies; while there might be value in seeking to educate junior exploration companies on Iran's nuclear program, this would entail much more effort than focusing on the large production companies like Cameco and Areva. Hwer observed that he had recently met with Cameco officials and believed that they would also welcome cooperation with U.S. efforts, since "they are aware of their non-proliferation responsibilities and take them very seriously."

[1](#)3. (C) Hwer emphasized that Canada has no information or intelligence on any Iranian activities to secure uranium from any Canadian entities, and underlined that Canadian law prohibits uranium sales to Iran.

Visit Canada's North American partnership community at
<http://www.intelink.gov/communities/state/nap/>

BREESE